



## Press Release

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# Completion of Major Construction Celebrated at Rail Crossing Underpass

**El Monte, Calif.** —Officials gathered today to mark the completion of major construction on a four-lane roadway underpass and a two-track railroad bridge carrying freight trains over Baldwin Avenue, north of Valley Boulevard in the City of El Monte.

“We appreciate the patience and support of the community as the Baldwin Avenue project was under construction,” said El Monte Councilwoman Norma Macias, Chair of the Alameda Corridor-East (ACE) Construction Authority Board of Directors. “This project will eliminate crossing collisions and train horn noise and reduce vehicle congestion, queuing and emissions.”

To construct the Baldwin Avenue grade separation project, workers used 1 million pounds of reinforcing steel, poured 12,000 cubic yards of concrete and excavated 93,000 cubic yards of dirt, enough to fill 11,600 dump trucks. The \$76.7 million project was funded in partnership by Federal and state agencies, Los Angeles County Metro and Union Pacific Railroad. Over two years of construction, 446 construction workers were employed, with 11% of construction costs subcontracted to small businesses.

“The ACE projects are my top goods movement and safety priority and I am proud to champion them in Congress” said U.S. Representative Grace Napolitano, California’s senior-most member on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Located on the transcontinental ACE Trade Corridor, the highway-rail grade separation is used daily by 18 freight trains, projected to increase to 40 trains by 2025 and to 59 trains if the route is double-tracked by the railroad. Once opened to traffic next month, the underpass will accommodate 28,000 vehicles a day. The Federal Railroad Administration has logged two train-vehicle collisions at the crossing over the last 10 years.

“I am proud to support Federal investments in projects like ACE. The jobs and improvements that come from increased infrastructure spending benefit our entire economy, which is why I support legislation that would establish a new National Freight Network Trust Fund for ACE and other freight infrastructure projects,” said U.S. Representative Judy Chu.

**PHOTO CAPTION 1:** Officials join with the City of El Monte to celebrate the completion of major construction on the Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation Project.

PHOTO CAPTION 2: A train travels over the new Baldwin Avenue Grade Separation, a project completed by ACE under budget and ahead of schedule. The road is anticipated to be open to cars and pedestrians in the next few weeks.

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**The City of El Monte**, located in Southern California, is committed to improving the quality of life for its citizens and strives to provide its community personalized service, uncompromising commitment, and individualized accountability. For information on the City of El Monte, please call 626-580-2001 or visit [www.elmonteca.gov](http://www.elmonteca.gov).